

Appendix F

Summary of the Travel Analysis Process

Summary of Roads Analysis Process

Summary of Public Engagement and Social Values

Two main efforts have been undertaken as part of fulfilling the requirements under TMR Subpart A. The first was the CNNF initiating a public sensing process in October of 2014 to assess which NFS roads are important to visitors and why. In addition to public meetings and the receipt of hand-written comments, the primary tool used for collecting information from the public was an on-line mapping/comment tool, which allowed the public to comment on specific sections of road in addition to general comments about the use of NFS roads. This collection of comments continued until December 31st of 2014. From those comments, a list of “issues” were identified that focused on the ‘social values’ that were identified by the public as important.

The following is a summary of the “social value” comments received during the sensing process described above (for more details, see Appendix D):

- Roads and trails are highly valued for their ability to provide access to the Forest system lands and neighboring public lands.
- Local communities see the ability to have motorized access as a key component in their economic success and specifically regard the use of ATV/UTV and snowmobile trails as revenue-generating.
- Several individuals see the ability to have access as a focal point in their family tradition, including, but not limited to ATV/UTV use, snowmobiling, hunting, exploring, berry picking, mushroom picking, firewood gathering, biking, hiking, etc.
- Users viewed illegal use of the roads and trails including illegal motorized use, trash dumping, destruction of gates/signs, and the perceived slow response of the FS to these actions as taking away from the user experience.
- Ensuring safe access to private inholdings is essential.
- The ability to access hunting areas in case of emergencies was viewed as highly important.
- Roads and trails are highly valued as the only means of access for the elderly and disabled.
- The ability to have a remote experience on FS lands while still having access for motorized use is important.

Issues were then developed from the public comments identifying social values as well as comments received internally from the Forest Service staff. Issues identified include the following (for more details see Appendix D):

- Insufficient resources for maintenance of the existing system roads
- Need for access to private lands for landowners
- Increased risk of human caused fire
- Need for access to firewood, hunting opportunities, berry picking, hiking, wildlife viewing, etc.
- Road access have effects on Known Cultural Resources and Tribal Use/Traditional cultural property
- Roads have effects on wildlife habitat
- Roads have effects on watershed conditions (water and soil)
- Roads provide access to the public for recreational activities
- Roads are needed for access for general forest administration

- Roads are needed to provide access for emergency purposes
- Roads are needed for access for the elderly and disabled